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CHRB NEWS RELEASE

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## SECURITY ENHANCED FOR AMERICAN OAKS

INGLEWOOD, CA – California Horse Racing Board investigators and racetrack personnel will be providing enhanced security Saturday for the inaugural running of the American Oaks in order to ensure the highest integrity and a “level playing field” for what promises to become one of the most significant races on the American racing calendar.

CHRB investigators have been providing additional security for all Grade I races at the meet and will continue to do so for the Hollywood Gold Cup on July 14 and for major races at Del Mar. The \$500,000 American Oaks is a new race that has not yet been graded, but it will attract an international cast of 3-year-old fillies running at the classic distance of 1 ¼ miles on the turf, so the CHRB is implementing significant additional security measures to ensure the utmost integrity for its inaugural running.

In addition to confidential investigative tactics, the CHRB will post someone at the stall of every horse entered to run in the Oaks beginning the morning of the race. Hollywood Park will provide additional security personnel for this purpose to work with CHRB investigators.

“The American Oaks will be a great race and become, we think, one of the most prestigious and significant events in the nation,” said Hollywood Park President Rick Baedeker. “As such, we welcome this opportunity to work with the CHRB in providing heightened security for the participants.”

CHRB Vice Chairman Roger Licht, following conversations with Baedeker and CHRB Supervising Investigator Michael Kilpack, feels confident the additional security measures will “ensure a level playing field for all of the participants in this new important fixture for California racing.”

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